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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/747,725	12/29/2003	Patricia Chapman Irwin	134756-1	6638
6147 7590 10/01/2009 GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY GLOBAL RESEARCH PATENT DOCKET RM. BLDG. K1-4A59 NISKAYUNA, NY 12309			EXAMINER JACKSON, MONIQUE R	
			ART UNIT 1794	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 10/01/2009	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/747,725

Applicant(s)

IRWIN ET AL.

Examiner

Monique R. Jackson

Art Unit

1794

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13, 15, 16 and 22-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13, 15, 16 and 22-33 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28, 30 and 31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 29 and 32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/7/09 has been entered.
2. Claims 1-11, 13, 15, 16, and 22-33 are pending in the application. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. Claims 28, 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Markovitz et al (USPN 6,359,232) in view of Richardson (USPN 2,970,936) or Markovitz et al II (USPN 5,723,920.)
4. As previously discussed, Markovitz et al teach an electrical insulating material, particularly for use as groundwall insulation for high voltage generator stator bars, wherein the electrical insulating material comprises a resin binder and about 2 to about 30wt% of submicron particles of silicon dioxide, aluminum oxide, titanium dioxide and/or zirconium dioxide, with a particle size of about 0.005 to about 0.05 micrometers; and the resin binder is a thermosetting polymeric material such as epoxy and polyester resins (Abstract; Col. 2, lines 9-61; Col. 4, lines 58-Col. 5, line 41; Col. 8, lines 40-52; Col. 9, lines 29-36) Markovitz et al teach that the insulating material provides superior voltage endurance performance (Col. 9, lines 37-53.) Markovitz et al also teach that the resin binder may be other binders aside from the epoxy resins

utilized in the examples, including polyester resins, bismaleimide resins, polybutadiene and others, but does not specifically recite the claimed binder resins (Col. 8, lines 40-52.) However, one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated to utilize art-recognized, functionally equivalent binder resins to those taught by Markovitz et al, given the reasonable expectation of success and predictable results, wherein Richardson and Markovitz et al II both teach suitable matrix resin binders including those disclosed by Markovitz et al as well as resins that read upon the instantly claimed resins, wherein any of these resins are taught to be suitable for the same purpose as in the Markovitz et al invention and the instant invention. Markovitz et al also fail to specifically teach the thickness of the insulating layer and breakdown voltage as claimed however one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated to determine the optimum thickness of the insulating layer to provide the desired insulating properties for a particular end use wherein typical thicknesses are within the claimed range. With respect to Claim 31, it is noted that the carbides recited in Claim 31 are not positively recited as being in the insulating layer given that the carbides are optional in Claim 30.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicants' arguments filed 7/7/09 have been considered but are not moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 29 and 32 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 1-11, 13, 15, 16, 22, 24-27 and 33 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monique R. Jackson whose telephone number is 571-272-1508. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays, 10:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Callie Shosho can be reached on 571-272-1123. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Monique R Jackson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794
September 25, 2009